

## Important Links

Wing Website  
[501csw.usafe.af.mil](mailto:501csw.usafe.af.mil)  
[Commander's Suggestion Line](#)  
Commander's Action Line  
268-4900 or  
[501csw.ccactionline](mailto:501csw.ccactionline)

## Stories from around the wing, Air Force

### 501st CSW names 2012's Airmen of the Year

In a gala event held at the RAF Croughton Crown Feb. 8, the 501st Combat Support Wing announced their Annual Award winners for 2012 in 10 categories including: Airman, Non-Commissioned Officer, Senior Non-Commissioned Officer, First Sergeant, Company Grade Officer, Honor Guard, Civilian Category I, Civilian Category II, Civilian Volunteer and Key Spouse.

### Air Force leaders: Sequestration, more budget cuts will be devastating

Sequestration would leave the Air Force with untrained people, a lack of equipment and be "devastating" to the service, officials said Feb. 7.

### New surcharge on Visa purchases

As of Jan. 27, merchants in the United States and U.S. Territories are permitted to impose a surcharge on any credit card transaction that uses a MasterCard or Visa branded card, which includes the Government Travel Charge Card, both Individually Billed Accounts and Centrally Billed Accounts.

The United Kingdom Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) Survey is open. These surveys directly affect the amount we receive for COLA in the United Kingdom. To prepare for the survey, determine where you purchase groceries, clothing, household furnishings, entertainment, communications and transportation. Also, in Part VI of this survey there will be a "Remarks" section. Members should include their Road/TV tax in this section.

This is our opportunity to voice our feedback and affect our own COLA, so if you want to see changes then you should take the survey. The survey is available at the link below and will end Feb. 15.

[Click here to take the survey](#)

Volume 5, Issue 5

Feb. 8, 2013

"501 — Second To None!"

# Wing E-News



501st Combat Support Wing

## The Big Picture

What's going on in the wing and the Air Force

**I**t was a whirlwind of a week, and the world-class execution seen across our wing showed why each of you make the 501 second to none! From handling the last-minute changes throughout Gen. Breedlove's visit to the unique and truly enjoyable Annual Awards ceremony on Friday night, excellent execution at the highest levels was the standard across our entire wing!

General Breedlove, Mrs. Breedlove and Chief Adams were truly impressed with everything they saw throughout our wing. The individual briefers impressed the U.S. Air Forces in Europe leadership team with your depth of knowledge and enthusiasm for your jobs. While we showcased the outstanding mission of our wing, Gen. Breedlove helped tie our mission into world events during the All Calls. In case you didn't hear him, he emphasized how the intelligence, communications and global strike that you enable are supporting forces operating throughout places such as Mali and Libya as well as in other North Africa loca-

tions. Even though they weren't able to make it to Menwith Hill or Fairford due to the weather, General Breedlove got the idea of what you all do and hopes to return at a future time to see your great work first-hand.

As if hosting the USAFE command team wasn't enough, we also held the winter Face to Face meeting and the Wing Annual Awards Ceremony at RAF Croughton during the last two days of the week. Face to Face is our twice annual leadership gathering where we all meet in one location and discuss the challenges and opportunities facing our wing in the upcoming six months. The cross-talk this event enables is invaluable by capitalizing on the natural synergies within the wing and helping create efficiencies throughout all our organizations. There is just no substitute for face-to-face analog communication when we're tackling challenging subjects.

We ended the week with the Annual Awards Ceremony, and I could not think of a better way to cap off our busy week. This year we used a new format that allowed us to honor our nominees,

highlight how every Airman has a story and celebrate the excellence in our wing. The stand-up cocktail party format was a nice change of pace and worked very well at the Croughton Crown. Thank you to everyone involved in making the ceremony such a success and thanks to the friends and families of our nominees who came out to support them and enjoy the night!

While last week was hectic, we were able to put our best foot forward and showcase the professionalism and dedication of our Airmen throughout the wing. And even more impressive, we did this all while continuing to do our day-to-day missions of enabling communications, intelligence, and global strike operations. These visits and our other events were also a great way to remind each of us how our jobs fit into the bigger wing, USAFE and Air Force mission sets. Thanks for making last week such a success and thanks for all you did last week, and every week!

- Col. Kelly

## Going Local: Base Community Events

### RAF Menwith Hill



- The Chapel will hold a marriage enrichment weekend Feb. 15-16. A limited number of childcare slots are available. Call the chapel to register at 262-7850.

### RAF Croughton



- ITT has a London Theatre trip to "The Phantom of the Opera" Feb. 16. Tickets are £55 per person (transport & ticket in stalls).
- ITT has a four-day [St. Patrick's Day in Dublin trip](#) from March 16 – 19. The cost is \$550 per person (two sharing adults) or \$650 per person (single occupancy) and includes transport, three nights' accommodations, breakfast and ferry crossing. Tickets must be purchased by Feb. 22.

### RAF Alconbury



- ITT has a trip to the [York Jorvik Viking Festival](#) Feb. 16. The festival sees hundreds of Vikings descend on the city and demonstrate battle-drills and training routines. Jorvik Viking Festival is FREE. Some charges apply for some activities and entrance to the Jorvik Viking Centre. Transportation only is £25 for adults, £18 for children 3-14 years old, and £10 for children under 3.
- ITT has a trip to the [Greenwich Market & Prime Meridian](#) Feb. 23. Visit the Arts & Crafts Market or Village Market, which has been running for more than 20 years. Don't miss the chance to visit The Royal Observatory which stands as a monument to navigational research. It is the original home of Greenwich Mean Time and is famous for being the source of the Prime Meridian line that divides the East from the West. Transportation only is £19 for adults, £16 for children 3-14 years old, and £10 for children under 3.

[Subscribe](#) to the E-News and get it delivered to your home e-mail account!



RAF CROUGHTON, United Kingdom – Master Sgt. Randy Hillsgrove, 422nd Communications Squadron, goes up to spike a ball during the final event of the Face-to-Face meeting. Face-to-Face is held biannually and is the only opportunity for the whole wing leadership to meet other than through video teleconference. Following a day and a half of briefings and other efforts to enable cross-talk and capitalize on the synergies of the wing, attendees and Airmen from RAF Croughton participated in a volleyball game to help build esprit d'corps. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chrissy Best)



RAF CROUGHTON, United Kingdom – Capt. Terri Zell, 422nd Medical Squadron, and 1st Lt. Sean O'Keefe, 501st Combat Support Wing staff, the two masters of ceremony, lead those in attendance in the "Air Force Song" at the conclusion of the 501st CSW Annual Awards Ceremony Feb. 8. To see more photos, visit the [501st CSW Facebook](#) page. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chrissy Best)



Would you like to go to Hawaii for free courtesy of the USO? They are giving away a five night stay at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach, local O'ahu attraction passes, round trip airfare for two from Europe, transportation to and from the airport and \$250 in spending cash. To be qualified, you must be married, E-6 and below and stationed in Europe. To register, go to this [link](#).



## Wing Calendar

(A) Alconbury (C) Croughton  
(F) Fairford (M) Molesworth  
(MH) Menwith Hill (W) Welford (S) Stavanger

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10 London Chinese New Year Celebrations	11 <a href="#">Ali Dee - Live (C)</a>	12 Shrove Tuesday (AKA Pancake Day, Mardi Gras & Fat Tuesday) <a href="#">Ali Dee - Live (A)</a>	13 Ash Wednesday	14 Valentine's Day	15	16 <a href="#">London Theater Trip - Phantom of the Opera (C)</a>
17	18 President's Day	19	20	21	22	23 Disney on Ice presents 'Let's Party' Trip (C)

Like Us On at <http://on.fb.me/147a8rX>

Follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/501CSW](http://www.twitter.com/501CSW)